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**Central States**  
 Center for Agricultural  
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West Central District Health Department  
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 Eau Claire for sharing her work on  
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# BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS

*Recent outbreaks of bovine tuberculosis have resulted in quarantines and herd depopulations.*

## QUICK FACTS THAT YOU SHOULD KNOW TO PROTECT YOUR ANIMALS & YOURSELF

### What is Bovine Tuberculosis (TB)?

- Bovine TB is a contagious disease caused by the bacteria *Mycobacterium bovis* (*M. bovis*) which usually originates in cattle.
- Transmission of bovine TB can occur between animals and humans.

### How is Bovine TB spread?

- The movement of animals and people can spread bovine TB between farms.
- Consuming unpasteurized dairy products or undercooked meat from animals with bovine TB.
- Breathing air exhaled by an animal or person who is sick with bovine TB.
- Contact with a wound of an infected animal including cattle, deer, or badgers.

### How can you prevent Bovine TB?

- ⇒ Be aware of signs and symptoms of bovine TB.
- ⇒ Advise employees to be screened and tested for TB.
- ⇒ Do not eat or drink unpasteurized dairy products or undercooked meats.
- ⇒ Restrict contact between your herd and other herds.

### Signs of Bovine TB in Cattle

- Chronic, moist cough
- Eating less
- Enlarged lymph nodes
- Lack of energy
- Low grade fever
- Weight loss

### Signs of Bovine TB in Humans

- Coughing lasting longer than two weeks or coughing up blood
- Chest pain
- Fatigue
- Fever
- Night sweats
- Weight loss

### If not treated properly, Bovine TB can be fatal.

- If you or your cattle have symptoms of bovine TB, you should isolate the affected animal and contact your supervisor and/or your veterinarian immediately.
- If you think you may have bovine TB, you should seek medical attention immediately and let your healthcare provider know that you work in close contact with animals.
- If you see deer or other wildlife with symptoms of bovine TB, contact your local public health department immediately.



- ⇒ Clean and disinfect all facilities and trailers that have housed animals that did not originate from your herd.
- ⇒ Enact biosecurity policies and keep on-farm visitors away from your herd whenever possible.

- ⇒ Make sure your fences are in good condition to separate your herd from wildlife.
- ⇒ Always ask for a copy of the accredited TB-free herd certificate when you are purchasing animals.
- ⇒ Wear gloves when field dressing deer or other wildlife.

#### References:

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2011). *Mycobacterium bovis* (bovine tuberculosis) in humans. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/tb/publications/factsheets/general/mbovis.pdf>
2. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. (2014). Questions and answers: Bovine tuberculosis. Retrieved from [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal\\_health/content/printable\\_version/faq\\_bovine\\_tb.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/content/printable_version/faq_bovine_tb.pdf)
3. Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection, Division of Animal Health. (2016). Bovine tuberculosis in animals and humans.



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# TUBERCULOSIS BOVINA

Recientes brotes de tuberculosis bovina han dado lugar a cuarentenas y despoblación de manadas.

## DATOS GENERALES QUE USTED DEBE SABER PARA PROTEGER A SUS ANIMALES Y A USTED MISMO

### ¿Qué es la Tuberculosis Bovina (TB)?

- La TB bovina es una enfermedad contagiosa causada por la bacteria *Mycobacterium bovis* (*M. bovis*) que generalmente se origina en el ganado.
- La transmisión de la TB bovina puede ocurrir entre animales y humanos.

### ¿Cómo se transmite la TB Bovina?

- El movimiento de animales y personas puede propagar la TB bovina entre granjas.
- Consumir productos lácteos no pasteurizados o carne poco cocida de animales con TB bovina.
- Respirando aire exhalado por un animal o una persona enferma con TB bovina.
- Contacto con una herida de un animal infectado, incluyendo ganado, venado o tejones.

### ¿Cómo se puede prevenir la TB Bovina?

- ⇒ Esté al tanto de los signos y síntomas de la TB bovina.
- ⇒ Aconseje a los empleados que se practiquen exámenes de detección y pruebas de TB.
- ⇒ No coma ni beba productos lácteos no pasteurizados ni carnes poco cocidas.
- ⇒ Restrinja el contacto entre su manada y otras manadas.

### Signos de TB bovina en el ganado

- Tos crónica y húmeda
- Comer menos
- Ganglios linfáticos agrandados
- Falta de energía
- Fiebre baja
- Pérdida de peso

### Signos de TB bovina en humanos

- Tos con más de dos semanas de duración o tos con sangre
- Dolor de pecho
- Fatiga
- Fiebre
- Sudores nocturnos
- Pérdida de peso

### Si no se trata adecuadamente, la TB bovina puede ser fatal.

- Si usted o su ganado tienen síntomas de TB bovina, debe aislar al animal afectado y comunicarse inmediatamente con su supervisor y/o su veterinario.
- Si cree que usted puede tener TB bovina, debe buscar atención médica inmediatamente y contarle a su médico que trabaja en contacto cercano con animales.
- Si ve venados u otra vida silvestre con síntomas de TB bovina, comuníquese de inmediato con el departamento de salud pública local.



- ⇒ Limpie y desinfecte todas las instalaciones y remolques que han albergado animales que no se originaron en su manada.
- ⇒ Promulgue políticas de bioseguridad y en lo posible, mantenga a los visitantes de la granja lejos de su manada.

- ⇒ Asegúrese de que sus cercas estén en buenas condiciones para separar su manada de la vida silvestre.
- ⇒ Siempre solicite una copia del certificado acreditado de manada libre de TB cuando compre animales.
- ⇒ Use guantes para desmembrar venado u otros animales silvestres.

**Referencias:**

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2011). *Mycobacterium bovis* (bovine tuberculosis) in humans. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/tb/publications/factsheets/general/mbovis.pdf>
2. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. (2014). Questions and answers: Bovine tuberculosis. Retrieved from [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal\\_health/content/printable\\_version/faq\\_bovine\\_tb\\_.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/content/printable_version/faq_bovine_tb_.pdf)
3. Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection, Division of Animal Health. (2016). Bovine tuberculosis in animals and humans.